

## Composting IS recycling

The ultimate goal of recycling is to conserve natural resources and valuable landfill space.

Over time, experts have learned that recycling certain materials such as plastic, metals, cardboard and paper is not enough. Instead, an increased focus on organic waste that can be composted is needed.

The City's Green Curb Carts are used strictly for organic material. The composting program processes more than 22,000 tons of compostable material each year; more carts will mean more compost.

Green Curb Carts are picked up every Wednesday except the week of city holidays. Residents who use green carts are eligible for free compost the first Saturday in April and October.

For more information, contact the Sanitation Department at 761-7977.

Here are some facts about recycling and composting:

🌱 62 percent of our waste is organic and can be composted.

🌱 The average person produces more food



waste than plastic waste.

🌱 Composting food waste is easier, less expensive and more environmentally friendly than recycling plastic.

🌱 Recycling locally is best. The City's organic, glass and metal recycling program eliminates the need to transport recycled

materials to another city to be sorted then transported to another location to be processed into a usable material.

🌱 Want to save the earth from plastic? Then REDUCE the USE. Only 50 percent of plastic sent to a Material Recovery Facility is actually recycled, the rest goes into a landfill.

🌱 Composting, the most efficient type of recycling, lets what's produced by the earth return to the earth. It does not involve chemicals, huge amounts of power or the use of diesel trucks for transporting recyclable materials.

🌱 By keeping organics out of the landfill, we can reduce methane gas production since composting does not produce methane.

### What can you put in the City's Green Curb Carts?

- |               |                  |                   |                 |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| ▶ Food waste  | ▶ Paper products | ▶ Newspapers      | ▶ Tree branches |
| ▶ Cardboard   | ▶ Soiled paper   | ▶ Junk mail       | ▶ Milk cartons  |
| ▶ Chip board  | ▶ Shredded paper | ▶ Grass clippings | ▶ Juice cartons |
| ▶ Pizza boxes | ▶ Magazines      | ▶ Leaves & wood   | ▶ Phone books   |

# Fire Department



## Oh yeah, it's tornado season

The American Red Cross offers the following advice for tornado safety:

It's important to know the difference between a watch (tornadoes are possible) and a warning (tornado has been sighted).

**Tornado watch:** Tornadoes are possible in or near the watch area. Review and discuss your emergency plan. Check supplies and your safe room. Be ready to act quickly if a warning is issued.

**Tornado warning:** A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar, presenting imminent danger to life and property. Go immediately to the room in your home that has been designated as the gathering place during a tornado. This should be a basement, storm cellar or an interior room on the lowest floor with no windows.

Practice periodic tornado drills so that everyone knows what to do if a tornado is approaching.

Prepare for high winds by removing diseased and damaged limbs from trees.

Move or secure lawn furniture, trash cans, hanging plants or anything else that can be picked up by the wind and become a projectile.

During any storm, listen to local news or an weather radio to stay informed.

### Is your shelter registered?

Citizens of Wichita Falls with an in-ground or above ground storm shelter are urged to register the address and exact location of their storm shelters as soon as possible.

Call or email your full name, the address of your storm shelter, its exact location and whether it is above ground or below ground to Kathy Bazile at [kathy.bazile@wichitafallstx.gov](mailto:kathy.bazile@wichitafallstx.gov).

For more information, call (940) 761-7901.

#### Watch for tornado danger signs:

- ✓ Dark, often greenish, clouds
- ✓ Wall cloud - an isolated lowering of the base of a thunderstorm
- ✓ Cloud of debris
- ✓ Large hail
- ✓ Funnel cloud
- ✓ Roaring noise

#### If outdoors:

- ☼ Do not wait until you see the tornado. Immediately seek shelter in a basement, shelter or sturdy building.
- ☼ If you cannot walk to a shelter, get in a vehicle, buckle your seat belt and drive to the closest shelter.
- ☼ If flying debris occurs, pull over and park.
- ☼ If unable to find shelter, exit your vehicle, find a ditch or culvert and put your head down, covering your head with your hands.
- ☼ As a last resort, stay in your car with seat belt on and put your head down below the windows, covering your head with your hands and a blanket, if possible.

## Health District



# Warmer temps can mean more wildlife in the area

The City of Wichita Falls Animal Services Center is encouraging all pet owners and citizens to increase their awareness of rabies.

With the arrival of warmer weather, more wildlife will be seen in the area searching for food, water and shelter.

In the United States, there are 1 to 3 reported cases of rabies in humans each year. A man in Lewisville, Texas, recently contracted rabies after being attacked by a skunk while he was riding his bicycle.

Most wild animals are not infected with rabies, but residents should always keep in mind that wild animals, by nature, are unpredictable and can carry disease.

Any exposure to wild animals, alive or dead, particularly bats, raccoons, skunks, coyotes and foxes (which are the top five carriers of the virus in Texas) should be avoided.

Children and pets should be watched closely while outdoors to ensure they do not come in contact with or touch wild animals.

If a wild animal strays onto your property bring children and pets indoors, alert anyone else who may be in the vicinity and let the animal wander away.

Animal Services urges anyone who observes a wild or domestic animal, active during the day, appearing sick, fearless or aggressive to call Animal Control at 761-7824.

Do not attempt to capture or shoot the animal; it cannot be tested if shot in the head. Be aware that rabies can only be transmitted by saliva.

## Guidelines

- ▶ Ensure that all pets are current on their rabies vaccinations and don't let pets roam.
- ▶ Livestock owners should vaccinate horses and other livestock.
- ▶ Stay away from all wild animals and unknown dogs and cats.
- ▶ Never coax a wild animal to eat from your hand.
- ▶ If you encounter a bat, do not handle it. Bats have extremely small teeth and you may not realize that you have been bitten.
- ▶ Teach your children to report all bites, scratches and encounters with a wild or unknown animal.
- ▶ Don't feed or water your pets outside. Even empty bowls will attract wild and stray animals.
- ▶ Keep your garbage securely covered to avoid attracting wild or stray animals.

Exposure may occur if scratched by an infected animal or whenever saliva enters an open cut or mucous membrane (nose, mouth or eyes).

If you have been bitten or scratched by an unknown animal, contact your physician or the Wichita Falls-Wichita County Public Health District at 761-7800. Also call Animal Services at 761-7824 to make a report.

Medical questions should be directed to the Health District. Questions about possible rabies exposure can be directed to Animal Control.



## Parks and Recreation



# Summer's almost here!

**Registration for Summer Camps** is May 5 at the Wichita Falls Recreation Center at 600 11th St.

Registration packets will be available May 1.

The three summer camps are for children 6-12. Each camp has four sessions that cover two weeks.

Dates for the sessions are June 4-15; June 17-19; July 2-13 with July 4 an off day and July 16-27. A morning and afternoon snack will be served, but campers must bring a sack lunch.

Creative Minds Club will take place at Jefferson Elementary School gym. Children will participate in eight creative, theme-related mini-camps. Each afternoon will be devoted to arts & crafts related to the weekly theme.

The sessions go from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sessions are limited to 30 campers.

Camp Lotsafun at the Lucy Park Log Cabin will offer swimming, crafts, nature and fitness activities, games, hikes, onsite demonstrations, off-site field trips and more.



The sessions go from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sessions are limited to 50 campers.

Camp Summer Fun at Scotland Elementary School gym includes indoor activities as well as outdoor games, swimming, hiking and off-site field trips.

Sessions go from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sessions are limited to 50 campers.



The **Home Alone Class** is a must for children who may be spending some time alone this summer.

The class, presented by the Wichita Falls Police and Fire departments, will go May 17 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The class is designed for children 6-13 and their parents. Information to be covered in the class includes personal safety, proper use of 911, how to say NO, how to answer doors and telephones when home alone and much more.

Space is limited; register at the Recreation Center.

Sign up now for **puppy or dog obedience classes**, which are held at the Obedience Training Club of Wichita Falls at 974 Springlake Drive.

Classes, which begin May 21 or May 23, are held Mondays and Wednesdays.

You can register for the classes at the Recreation Center.

**Splash Day** is set for May 26 from noon to 6 p.m. at Lucy Park Pool. Everyone swims FREE on the pool's opening day.

# Police Department



## Crime Stoppers fundraiser

# Golf tourney set for May 21

The 2012 Crime Stoppers Golf Tournament is scheduled for May 21 at the Wichita Falls Country Club.

Registration begins at noon in the Pro Shop. The shotgun start begins at 1 p.m.

An awards banquet and dinner will take place at 6 p.m.

Early registration is \$100 per person or \$400 per team.

The tournament is a four-person scramble format.

The entry fee covers the greens fee, cart rental, a light lunch and awards.

There will be three hole contests: a closest to the pin on holes 2, 4, 11 and 13; a long drive



contest on holes 3 and 6, and a straightest drive contest on hole 17.

Entry forms are available at the police department at 610 Holliday.

Forms are also available on the Crime Stoppers website, [www.WFCrime.com](http://www.WFCrime.com), or the City's website:

[www.wichitafallstx.gov](http://www.wichitafallstx.gov).

Awards will be presented to first, second and third place teams. Scores will be based on handicap formula.

For more information or for entry forms, call Officer Joe Esteves at 761-7778 or Officer Robert Woodruff at 761-7777.

### What is Crime Stoppers?

As a nonprofit organization, Crime Stoppers involves the community, the media, and law enforcement in the fight against crime.

Cash rewards up to \$1,000 are offered to citizens who furnish information leading to the arrest and indictment of felony crime offenders or to the capture of felony fugitives.

### How does it work?

Most of the information



received by Crime Stoppers comes via telephone.

Citizens may call (940) 322-9888 any time 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with information about any

unsolved felony crime.

The number outside Wichita Falls is 1-800-322-9888.

If a caller's information results in the arrest and indictment of an offender or the apprehension of a fugitive, the caller will receive instructions on when to call back to check the case.

The caller will then get information that allows him or her to receive the reward in cash but stay anonymous.

# Bits and Pieces



## Road realignment project begins

Residents and visitors are encouraged to use alternate routes to avoid congestion and possible delays at the intersections of Lawrence and Callfield and Rhea Road and Callfield because of construction associated with the Lawrence/Callfield/Rhea Road Realignment Project, which began April 16.

To accommodate construction,

the right west bound lane of Callfield at Rhea Road will be temporarily closed as well as the possible temporary lane closure of the right north bound lane of Lawrence at Callfield.

Anyone entering this construction zone is asked to use caution and reduce vehicle speed to ensure the safety of road crews.

## Voting info for District 3

**Early voting:** April 30 - May 6 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

**Early voting:** May 7 and 8 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. All early voting is in Memorial Auditorium.

**Election Day voting:** 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in polling locations. Election Day is **May 12**.

Precincts 406 and 410: Jefferson Elementary School.

Precincts 403 and 411: Cunningham Elementary School.

Precincts 104, 105, 111 and 112: MSU Hardin Administration Building, 3400 Taft Blvd.

Precinct boundary maps can be found at [www.wichitafallstx.gov](http://www.wichitafallstx.gov).

For more information: 761-7409.



### Book Club meeting

May 1 at 6:45 p.m.

Library Conference Room

### Amo Leer

May 9, 6-8 p.m., Room 205

A program featuring bilingual songs and stories for children up to grade 3 and their parents

**For more info: 767-0868**

### Celebrity Storytime

May 29 at 10:30 a.m.

in Room 205

### Slick Jugglers

May 30 at 2 p.m.

Wichita Theatre

David Slick's show will offer juggling, magic, unicycling, stilt-walking and more!

### Tween/teen crafts

May 31, 2-3 p.m., Room 203

### Youth crafts

May 31, 2-4 p.m., Room 204



### **Birthday Party**

May 1 at 10:30 a.m.  
in Room 217

### **Brain Teasers**

May 1, 15  
1:30 p.m., Room 217

### **Live Band Dances**

May 4, 11, 18, 25  
7-10 p.m. in the  
ballroom

### **Quarterly Poker Tournament**

May 9 at 12:30 p.m.  
in Room 202

### **Hawaiian Luau**

May 14 at 5:30 p.m.  
in the ballroom

### **Wii Bowling Tourney**

May 21 at 1:30 p.m.  
in Room 208

### **AARP Lunch & Meeting**

May 22 at 11 a.m.  
Room 216

# Things to do

**Stephen Fite Concert:**  
**Funtastic School Day**  
 May 3 at 10:30 a.m.  
 Memorial Auditorium

**KFDX Kids Fest**  
 May 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Ray Clymer Exhibit Hall

**Wichita Falls Ballet Theatre**  
 May 10 at 12:30 p.m.  
 Memorial Auditorium

**MSU Commencement**  
 May 12 at 10 a.m.  
 Kay Yeager Coliseum

**Castaway Cove Opening Day**  
 May 12 at 10:30 a.m.  
 1000 Central Freeway

**Cajun Festival**  
 May 12 from noon to 10 p.m.  
 Downtown Wichita Falls

**Derby Dames Opener**  
 May 12 from 7 to 10 p.m.  
 Ray Clymer Exhibit Hall

**Mother's Day Tours**  
 May 13 from 2 to 4 p.m.  
 Kell House

**TOBRA Point Race**  
 May 13 from 3 to 6 p.m.  
 J.S. Bridwell Ag Center

**Police Memorial**  
 May 14 at 9 a.m.  
 Police Department

**Dallas Zoo visits**  
 May 14-18  
 River Bend Nature Center  
 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

**Live @ the Lake Concert**  
 May 17 from 6 to 8 p.m.  
 Sikes Lake

**Farmers Market Opens**  
 May 19 at 8 a.m.  
 Eighth and Ohio streets

**Gun and Knife Show**  
 May 19-20, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
 Ray Clymer Exhibit Hall

**Late Immunization Clinic**  
 May 22 from 5 to 6:30 p.m.  
 Wichita Falls-Wichita County  
 Public Health District

**TOBRA Jackpot**  
 May 22 from 7 to 10 p.m.  
 J.S. Bridwell Ag Center

**City View HS graduation**  
 May 24 at 7 p.m.  
 Memorial Auditorium

**Harrell Accelerated Learning Center graduation**  
 May 25 at 7 p.m.  
 Memorial Auditorium

**Wichita Falls HS graduation**  
 May 26 at 10 a.m.  
 Kay Yeager Coliseum

**Hirschi HS graduation**  
 May 26 at 2 p.m.  
 Kay Yeager Coliseum

**Rider HS graduation**  
 May 26 at 5 p.m.  
 Kay Yeager Coliseum

**Derby Dames Opener**  
 May 26 from 7 to 10 p.m.  
 Ray Clymer Exhibit Hall

**Live @ the Lake Concert**  
 May 31 from 6 to 8 p.m.  
 Sikes Lake

## Town Hall Forum

Forum begins at 7 p.m. in school cafeteria

**May 8 - District 5**

John Tower Elementary School  
 5200 Hooper

## City Council dates

Meetings begin at 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers at Memorial Auditorium, 1300 Seventh St.

May 1	June 5	July 3
May 15	June 19	July 17